

Appl. No. 10/691,390
Amdt. dated September 29, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 8, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4, 6, and 14-17 are pending in the application with claims 5, 7- 13, and 18-21 having been canceled. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The present invention is directed to a process for the production of alkyl salicylic acids comprising reacting salicylic acid with an olefin having at least four carbon atoms at an elevated temperature in the range of from about 50°C to about 200°C in the presence of a perfluoroalkylsulfonic acid, an alkylsulfonic acid, or an acidic clay as a catalyst.

Claims 1-4, 6, and 14-17 have been allowed. Claims 7-10, 12, and 18-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,876,020), Van Wijngaarden et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,869,837), and Van Kruchten et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,810,398) .

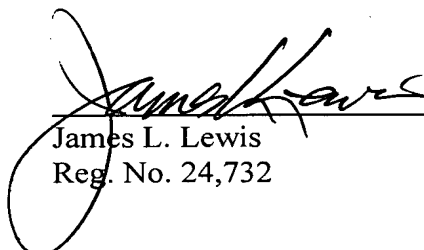
In response to the Examiner's Final Rejection of September 8, 2005, the Applicant has canceled claims 7-10, 12, and 18-21. The remaining claims have been allowed.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition to proceed to issuance and action to that end is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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